



# Indian Village Discovered

**HOT SPRINGS** - A surprise find of a large stockaded Indian village site believed inhabited about 400 years ago by approximately 200 persons has been unearthed by archaeologists excavating for Indian remains and artifacts in the Gathright Dam area.

Col. Howard A. McCord, archaeologist for the Virginia State Library in Richmond, said Friday that "we didn't expect to find anything as big as this in the area," noting that a village of 200 is unusually large. He said previous diggings in the area have revealed small clusters of only a few "wigwams" or Indian huts each.

The site is located in a cornfield on the banks of the Jackson River in Bath County, about

a mile from the Alleghany County line, and will be under 75 feet of water by 1976 if the Gathright Dam is finished by then, as scheduled.

McCord said this particular "dig" is part of a statewide study planned by the Virginia State Library, which hopes to excavate and study all prehistorical Indian traces before the Gathright area is flooded by the dam. He remarked: "We know of three or four more sites, and the clearing of surrounding forest may reveal others. This is the third site we've dug in this area, but the only one which is a complete stockaded village."

The other sites, McCord continued, "were only clusters of a few wigwam or lodge sites. These lodges were made by putting tree trunks in the ground like posts, bending the thinner tops to form a dome, and then covering with bark. The houses ranged from 12 to 24 feet in diameter, presumably varying with the number of inhabitants."

Noting that the village dates back to before the Jamestown settlement, McCord said the tribes there Indians belonged to and the language they spoke is unknown. He commented: "We hope that with digging at other sites in the state and in adjoining states especially West Virginia, we can eventually identify them with a particular tribe by similar pottery or burial customs."

Commenting on the lifestyle of the village's inhabitants, McCord said: "These Indians were an agricultural people, but they also hunted, fished and trapped for meat, and they gathered nuts, berries and other edible vegetable food in nearby hills. They probably grew tobacco, because we found a fragment of a tobacco pipe at this site. We also found three beads and a piece of scrap copper, but we don't know if it was Virginia or European copper. We plan to have it analyzed."

If the copper proves to be of European origin, it would indicate at least indirect contact with the

white man, McCord said, adding that the holes found for the palisade around the village indicate it was 215 feet in diameter and the evidence indicates the village was lived in briefly, for as little as three years. The existence of a palisade indicates they had some enemy in the area whom they feared, he said.

McCord also noted that the relatively few burial sites indicate a short stay in the area, "which raises the interesting question of where did they come from to get here and where did they go when they left? There is no indication of the palisades being burned by attackers, because then we would have found embers in the post holes we have uncovered."

He said the 11 skeletons unearthed to date at the site include one of an old woman, "probably an old hag", buried with a complete cooking pot, which infers a belief by the tribe in an afterlife. The pot presumably contained food for the soul of the departed when it was first buried. The skeleton of a child between one and two years of age was found buried with a turtle shell scoop with it, which may also have once contained food.

## Mountain Grove Man Charged After Accident

**MOUNTAIN GROVE** A Mountain Grove man was charged by State Trooper Tex Chapman with driving on a revoked license, reckless driving and drunk in public following a one-vehicle accident on Rt. 600 approximately 4.2 miles north of here about 6:15 p.m. Saturday.

Trooper Chapman said a 1969 Ford pickup driven by Vincent Gray Warwick struck a tree and turned over. The truck, owned by Mrs. Georgia Marguerite Hicks, also of Mountain Grove, was declared a total loss.

## Presbyterian Circles Plan November Meets

**MONTEREY** - The Women's Circles of the Monterey Group of Presbyterian Churches have scheduled the following meetings for November:

Monterey afternoon circles, Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. with Mrs. Holmes Stephenson and Miss Isabel Sparrow; Beulah circle, Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 2 p.m. at the manse with Mrs. G. Willard Gray; Pisgah circle, Sunday, Nov. 11, at 2 p.m. at the William Dudley home; Monterey evening circle, Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Carlton Hull home, and Crabbottom circle, Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. with Mrs. B. T. Becker.

The Old Timer  
APPLIANCES

NO MONEY DOWN  
E-Z  
CREDIT!  
YOUR SIGNATURE ONLY!

"It's a lot easier to get credit than to be one."



**THIS OLD MILL** located south of Healing Springs at the source of the Cascades Stream, near the site of the present Cascades Club, was operated by the parents of Mrs. Ralph

**Helmintoller** of Hot Springs. The 1893 photo comes from the collection of the Bath County Historical Society.

# Opry Star's Murder Saddens Highlander

HEADWATERS - The murder this past weekend of Grand Ole Opry star David "Stringbean" Akeman and his wife at their home near Nashville, Tenn., brought a note of sadness to at least one Headwaters resident, who knew him.

"I truly am sorry," said Mrs. O. R. McCray, who has played the banjo with Stringbean and called him "one of the best."

Stringbean and his close friend L. M. "Grandpa" Jones were to have left Nashville Sunday morning for a hunting trip to Highland County. Jones is also an Opry star and appeared with Stringbean on the television variety show, "Hee Haw."

The bodies of Stringbean and his wife Estelle were discovered by Jones about 6:30 a.m. Sunday when Jones came to the house

to meet his long-time friend for the hunting trip.

This would have been Stringbean's first trip to Highland, Mrs. McCray said, adding that he had planned to come on at least two other occasions and then had to cancel his plans. She said Grandpa Jones has visited Highland a number of times, staying at first at a camp immediately below Headwaters owned by Dallas Covey and for the past two years at Joe Wheeler's camp on the Cowpasture River.

Stringbean and Grandpa Jones were planning to stay at the Wheeler camp on this trip, Mrs. McCray said.

Mrs. McCray, a well-known local banjo player who has appeared on the Grand Ole Opry show, said "I've been playing

the banjo ever since I was eight and I'm almost 85 now and (Stringbean's) one of the best I've ever picked the banjo with."

During her visit to Nashville, Mrs. McCray said, she and several other banjo players, including Stringbean, would play together while waiting for the Grand Ole Opry show to begin.

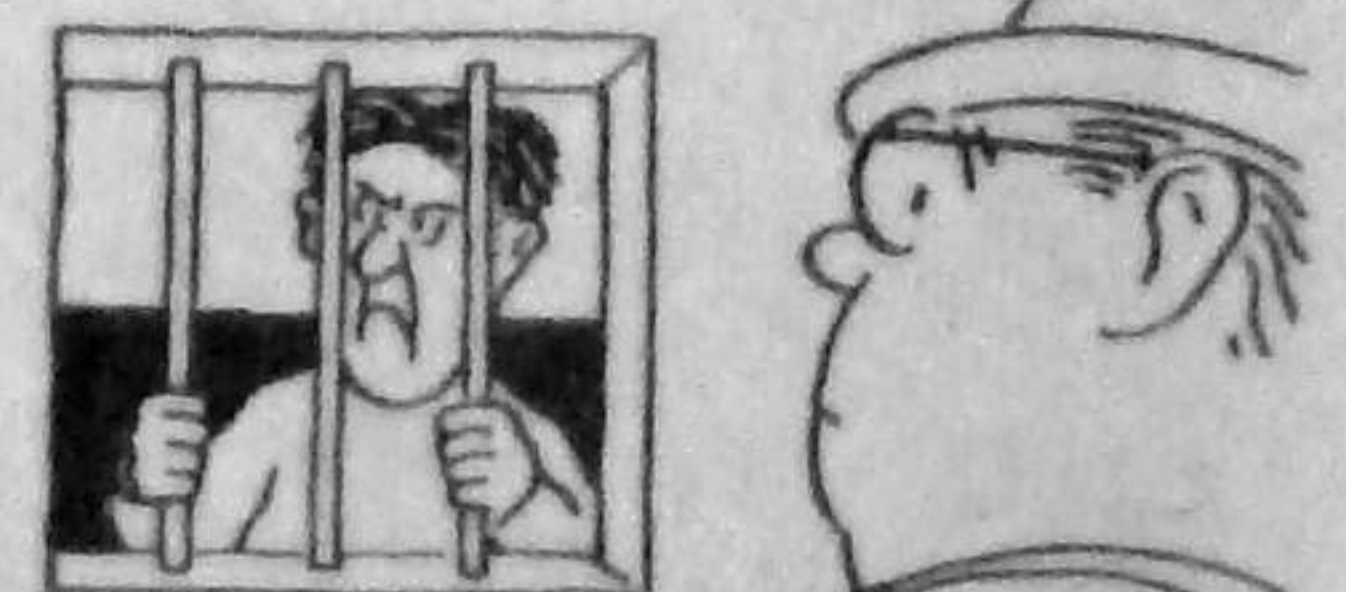
"He's a good banjo picker and he can't be beat," she remarked.

Mrs. McCray said Stringbean and Grandpa Jones were expected to arrive in Highland on Sunday. "I looked for them all day yesterday," she said Monday. She added she didn't know what had happened until she received a telephone call Monday morning from her daughter, Mrs. Charles Phillips of Greenbrier, Tenn., who said Stringbean and his wife had been murdered.

Nashville police said Jones

found Mrs. Akeman's body lying in the yard in front of the house, Stringbean's banjo leaning on the front doorway and Stringbean himself lying face down inside the house. Stringbean had been shot once and his wife three times, police said, adding that robbery was the apparent motive and the house had been ransacked.

## The Old Timer



R.H.

"People who turn the world upside down are not apt to be setting on top of it."



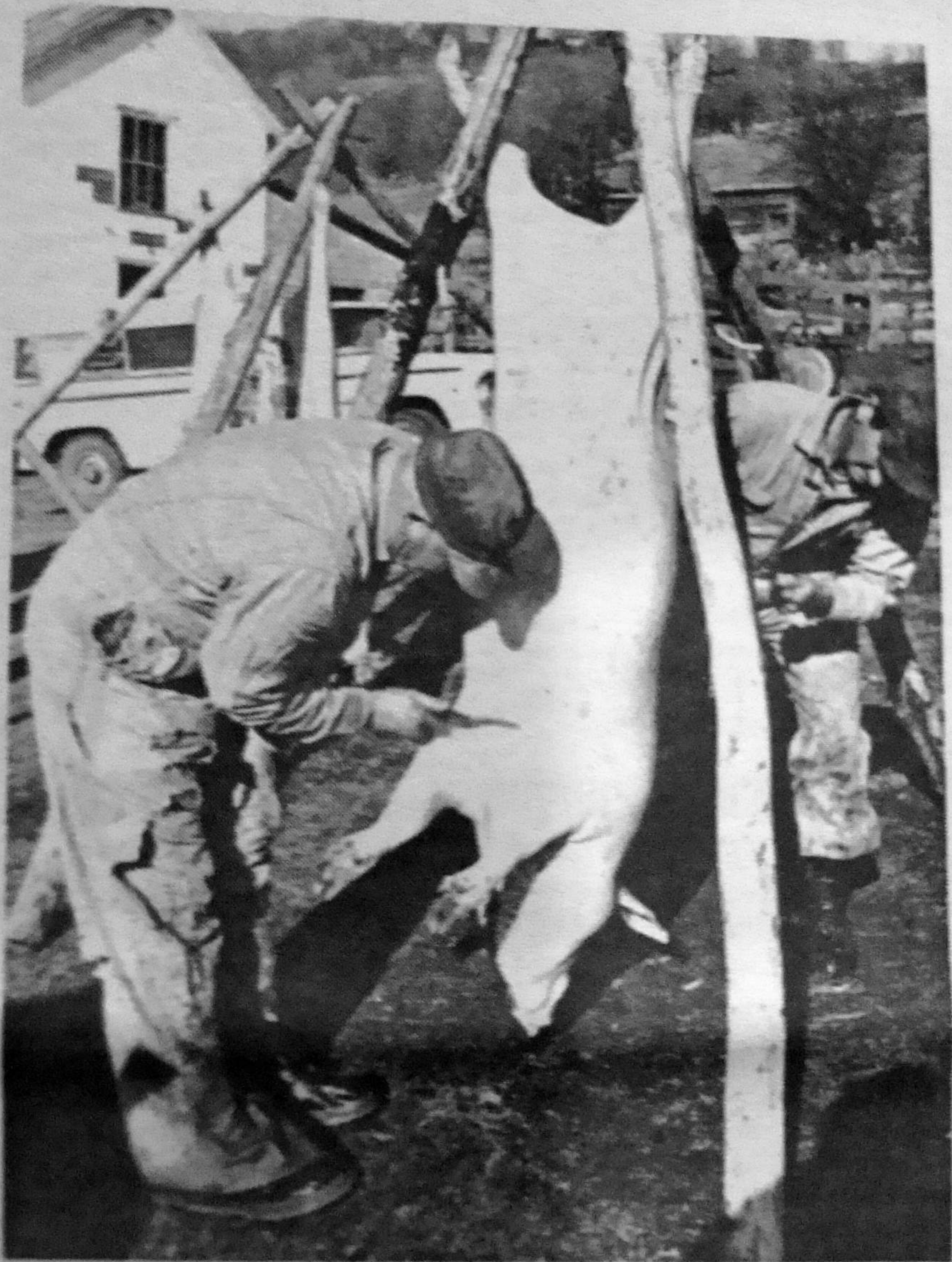
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BEVERAGE, HENRY HEVENER,  
WAYNE BEVERAGE AND CARLYLE HEV-

NER SCRAPE A HOG STILL STEAMING  
FROM ITS SCALDING BATH.



**CARLYLE HEVENER AND TOM BEVERAGE READY A HOG FOR BUTCHERING.**





**BUTCHERING TOOLS GLINT IN THE EARLY SUN. THE FIRST PIG IS SCALDED AND READY TO BE HUNG UP.**



**GEORGE HEVENNER WIELDS  
A SHARP, PRECISE KNIFE.**



**CHARLYLE HEVENER TAKES TIME TO SCRAPE THE HAIR FROM THIS SOW'S HEAD.**

# Friends Help Family Butcher Hogs

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY LINDA BALENTINE

MONTEREY - Cold days are perfect for butchering -- no flies and the meat won't sour before you get it all trimmed up. Taking advantage of a crisp day, George and Henry Hevener set their iron kettles cooking and you could watch the sun come up through the steam from the pots.

Friends arrived early too, to make the work easier. "We'll help you now if you'll help us later" is the feeling, often out of necessity, at butchering time. That day there were three

spring pigs to go down, averaging 300 pounds each. Some years they weigh more -- often up to 600 pounds. But the Heveners prefer the nine-month-old pigs. The meat is more tender than it would be on a year old hog.

The pigs were butchered individually. Carlyle marched up to the pen three times with his .22 shooting each pig between the eyes, to the delight of his little four year old son Tommy, who appreciates a good shot. As soon as the pig hit the ground Tom Beverage would rush in to plunge his knife under the pig's throat, slitting the jugular vein. Then, the carcass was turned down hill to let the blood run out. Henry observed that there was "not much blood this year-- some years there's more blood than others." They like to see a good kicker, a pig that thrashes violently after his throat was slit. A kicker would work all the blood out of the meat.

Dipping the pig into a barrel of scalding water facilitated scraping off the hair. Then, once the pig was hung up by its tendons from a tripod, the head was cut off, allowing the rest of the blood to drain out. George, who has done 60 to 70 hogs a year, is a master at cutting up a hog. Using various knives, a hacksaw, and even a double edged ax, he first split the hog in half, then blocked it out so the rest of the family could trim it up. Only the gall bladder, lungs and intestines were thrown to the dogs. The jaw meat and brains were saved, and pudding was made of the liver. The women canned sausage the next day, after the "animal heat" had gone out of the meat to prevent spoiling. The rest of the meat was laid out in a shed to cure for a year, covered with salt, pepper and sugar.

There is a spirit of independence at a butchering. A family knows where its meat comes from so they know what they're getting. They don't have to rely on over processed store meat frequently treated with carcinogenic chemicals. So turkeys and steers are next on the Hevener's butchering calendar.



HEVENER WIELDS  
PRIZE KNIFE.



HEVENER TAKES TIME TO SCRAPE THE  
HAIR FROM THIS HOG'S HEAD.

# W.Va. Judge Issues Ruling Against Clearcutting Practices In Forests

In a landmark ruling recently U. S. District Judge Robert Maxwell, a federal district judge in West Virginia, has declared that trees in federally owned woodlands must be dead, mature or large before they can be cut and sold as timber.

The decision banning clear-cutting is based on the 1897 Organic Act. Clear-cutting is described as the cutting of all trees from an area, regardless of their size or age. This practice has been popular partly because such indiscriminate cutting is generally cheaper than the individual harvesting of trees. Under the new ruling, individual trees must be marked and designated before they can be cut.

The ruling on clear-cutting so far affects only the Monongahela National Forest in the Allegheny Highlands of West Virginia, but if it is upheld it could establish new guidelines for all federal timberlands.

The suit which provoked the new ruling was brought by several conservationist organizations.

Judge Maxwell said the Organic Act of 1897 "constitutes a clear directive from Congress to the persons charged with the administration of the national forests, that trees can be sold only if they are dead, matured or large growth, and then may be sold only when the sale serves the purpose of preserving and promoting the younger growth of timber on the national forests." Judge Maxwell also ruled that Congress has full authority over the methods used, not to be decided by forest management.

This decision comes at a time when the Nixon administration has been trying to keep lumber

(Continued on page 5)



**THIS OLD SCHOOL PICTURE** may have been taken in the Little Valley area near Bolar. The Bath County Historical Society says the man in the middle of the back row may have been

named Burns, with a Mr. Baldwin on his right. John Cobb of Bolar is thought to be one of the children.

## Environmental Studies Being Stressed

# Pumped-Storage Project To be Largest in the World

BACK CREEK - The largest pumped-storage project in the world is being planned for construction in Bath County by Virginia Electric and Power Company at a cost of almost \$500 million. Designed by the Harza Engineering Company of Chicago, the project will have six generating units with a combined capacity of 2,100,000 watts. A license to begin actual work on the project is expected to be issued in the spring of 1975.

Exploration and conceptual and design work have been in progress at the Back Creek site between Monterey and Mountain Grove for some time. A license from the FPC has been applied for the design drawings are nearing completion. 2,400 people will be employed to complete the project, and when the actual work begins, they will work 24-hour shifts for most of the five-year period required to complete the project once the license is issued.

Because the electric power cannot be stored, water will be stored in the lower reservoir to be pumped through a tunnel to the upper reservoir when power is demanded. The upper reservoir which provides 35,500 acre-feet of storage, is behind a 500 foot fill dam. Water in the upper dam will be at a depth of up to 480 feet. The site of the upper dam basin is a natural site for this facility because of geologic structure, according to Masroor Kizilbash, resident geologist for the project. The rock is such that it does not leak, he said, and there is no lime-

stone in the wall of the reservoir which could be eroded by the water.

An emergency spillway has been provided at the upper reservoir which should never be used. Kizilbash said the spillway was provided in case of human error. Should the tunnel leading to the lower reservoir ever become choked, the spillway would prevent water from flowing over the top of the upper dam.

The lower reservoir is less than three-fourths of a mile below the upper reservoir. The lower reservoir will provide 30,500 acre-feet of water storage, behind a dam more than 150 feet high. Water from the lower reservoir will supply a recreation area downstream.

The upper reservoir is connected with the lower reservoir by a 9,000 foot tunnel at an elevation of 1970 feet above sea level at the lower reservoir. Water will travel both ways through conduits in the tunnels. When completed, the reservoirs will take six months to fill with water from Back Creek.

Veeco plans call for a recreation lake south of the lower reservoir because the water level behind the dam will fluctuate as much as 50 feet during a 24 hour period. Swimming, boating, hiking, camping and picnicking facilities will be available to the public. A rearing station for fish is also planned for this site. After route 600 is relocated a visitors center will be located near the lower dam.

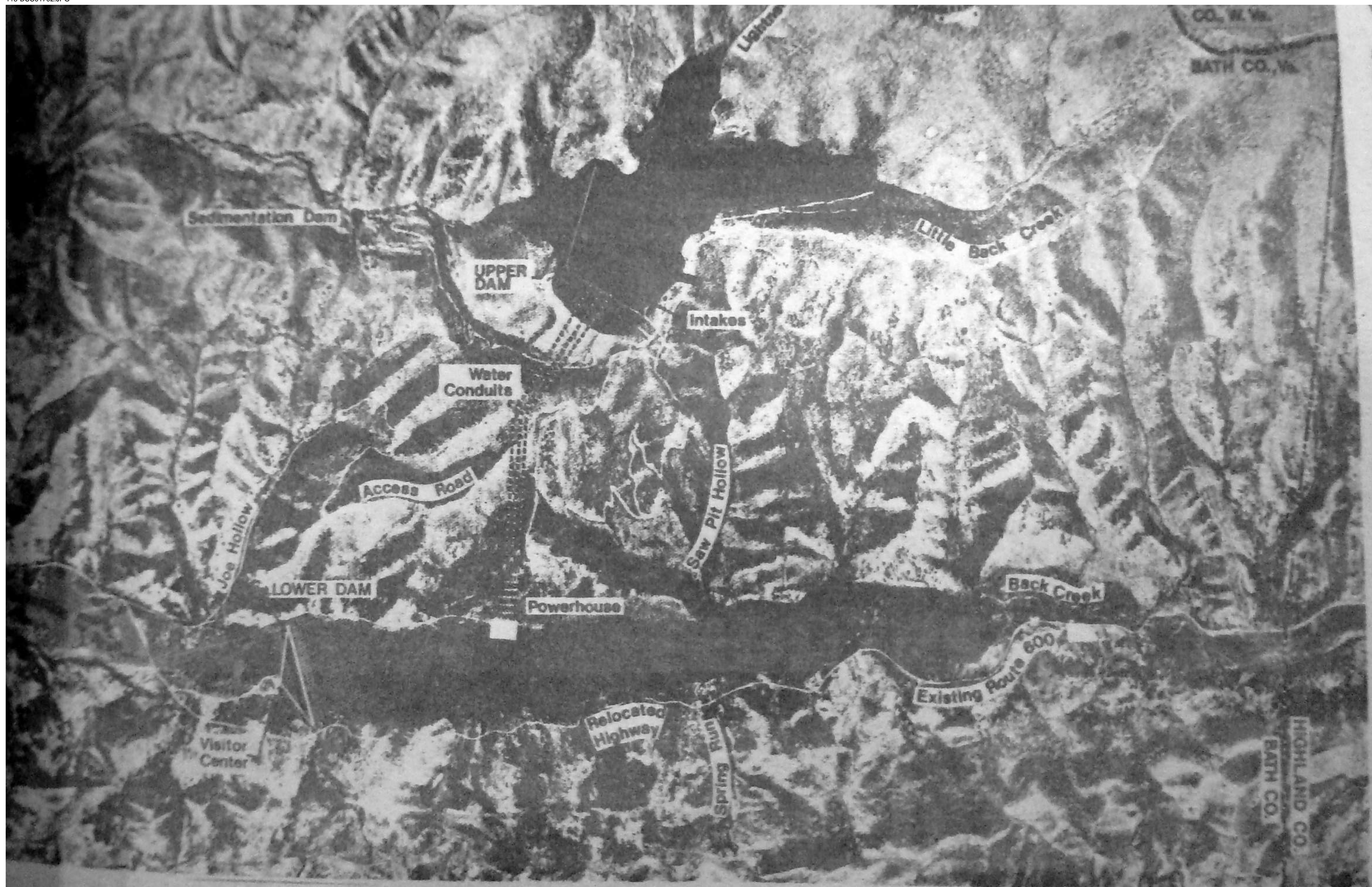
Geologist Masroor Kizilbash praised the project as a sound

one. He said the location was the most ideal site he knows of, because of the natural walls for the reservoirs provided by the surrounding geologic formations. He said the site is not only superb, but is also economical.

Kizilbash said that protecting the ecology of the area has been considered of first importance in the design of the project, that the environment will be left as nearly unchanged as possible. When completed, he said, the project will only be visible from the air. Tests for water purity taken each day have shown no contamination from on-site work done by engineers. Devices which measure movement to one one-thousandth of an inch have shown no movement from test drilling. In one location alone, Kizilbash said, \$2,000 has been spent to restore the vegetation that was removed in preparing the test drilling site, so that it will not be a scar on the landscape. Water temperature will not be changed more than 3 degrees. Not even the construction roads will be visible when the project is completed.

## Maple Queen's Contest, Ball Friday Evening

Monterey - Arnold Felcher of WSVB TV will be master of ceremonies Friday, when a Maple Queen will be chosen to reign over Highland County's annual Maple Festival. The queen will be crowned by last year's winner,



The blueprint projection of the Vepco pumped-storage project on Back Creek.



# Highland to Reconsider Mobile Home Rulings

MONTEREY - The Highland County Board of Supervisors has granted a third public hearing on the trailer ordinance at their regular meeting Monday. The hearing will be Friday, April 19 at the courthouse.

This new hearing was set after complaints of discrimination were voiced by trailer owners. Attorney John Lohr, who had also represented the trailer owners at the March Supervisors meeting, said the trailer tax discriminated against "homeowners with metal walls as opposed to homeowners with brick walls." Lohr said the Planning Commission had recommended the trailer ordinance be repealed because everything in the trailer ordinance is contained in either the state-wide building code or in the zoning ordinance, except for the annual license fees which his group objects to.

Austin Shepherd, Planning Commission secretary, suggested one-time "set-down" fee on all trailers brought into the county after the ordinance goes into effect. He said trailers which had been in the county before that time could be exempt from the fee.

The proposed amendment, which would replace Article 2-17 of the trailer ordinance, would allow for decals to be placed on all trailers in the county to show compliance with the ordinance. They would be something like county auto stickers.

In another action, the supervisors passed a resolution asking that Laurel Fork be managed as a multi-use area, with no wilderness as part of the management plan. Supervisor Roy Robertson stated that in his opinion "Laurel Fork will never be anything except a wilderness anyway." The resolution will be sent to State and national representatives.

Peter Hall, representing the Central Shenandoah Planning Commission, introduced Lt. Walter Brown to the Supervisors. Brown who is director of the

Criminal Justice Training Center at Blue Ridge Community College, told the board that Highland County can sponsor the training center along with other Virginia counties and cities at a yearly cost of \$17.75, which would entitle the county to send law enforcement officers to any of the law enforcement classes at the center. The yearly cost includes tuition and materials as well as a room and three meals per day at a Holiday Inn. The costs would have been \$60-\$75 per man for each six weeks school if the board had decided not to sponsor the center. The costs to the county is based on population and the number of police officers.

Sheriff Glen Hammer said the county will have to hire another law enforcement officer in 1975, and that all officers will have to attend the school.

The board heard complaints from David C. Smith and Hubert Hannah about the condition of the county landfill. Smith, an adjoining landowner, said trash is littering his property and fire is a threat. Burning is not lawful in a landfill. Hannah complained about the general misuse of the landfill and asked that the supervisors meet their responsibilities by setting up guidelines for the use of the area. The supervisors agreed to meet with town officials, to set hours and rules for the dump, which is partly owned by the Town of Monterey.

The supervisors appointed Marvin L. Eagle to the county Welfare Board, to fill the unexpired term of Carlton Hull.

Harry Puffenbarger was appointed to serve on the Potomac-Shenandoah River Advisory Committee of the State Water Control Board.

The Supervisors set the salary for the county land appraiser at \$750 plus \$400 for expenses. The secretary will receive \$2.50 per hour for her work and the reappraisal board will be paid \$20 per day.

Ford said the increase is part